

# ***TRAINING JOURNAL***

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***JMTC prepares Georgian  
forces for Iraq deployment***

***7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command***





**This Page:** A 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Soldier prepares to fold his parachute following a successful jump at DZ Bunker at Grafenwoehr Training Area

**Front Cover:** Georgian Infantry soldiers conduct training for cordon and search operations on a former airbase outside of Tbilisi, Georgia.

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## 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command Training Journal

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# Training Realism

by Brig. Gen. David G. Perkins  
7th Army JMTC

**W**e are an Army at war and our forces must be trained to fight the full spectrum of operations associated with war. Because of this, it is imperative that we conduct training to standard and that we make this training as realistic as possible. This is the only way we can ensure our Soldiers are prepared to meet the challenges of combat.

To ensure training realism, the Joint Multinational Training Command is trying to help units get rid of their “range” mindset when training in USAREUR. One of the ways we are doing this is to encourage units to treat weapons during training as they would in combat. This is based on the reality that in combat first line leaders are responsible for ensuring their Soldiers are handling weapons properly. Since deployed units use these procedures, we are integrating the same procedures into training for units preparing for combat. The goal is to ensure that leaders know before deployment, that their Soldiers can handle weapons with confidence.

Another part of conducting realistic training is for leaders and planners to know what assets are available, and how to arrange for them. Leaders can access the full suite of resources available to support them through the Training and Resources Management System (TRMS) at <https://trms.7atc.army.mil/default.asp>. This site shows what is on hand in USAREUR, and when; enabling leaders to conduct effective training management at all levels of command.

In addition to assests available to units at home station, installations such as Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels exist to enable units to execute tough training in realistic conditions. Leaders must maximize the use of the unique live, virtual, and constructive capabilities of these JMTC facilities to ensure their Soldiers and formations are ready for war. It is only through tough and realistic training, conducted to standard, and tied to a process of valid assessment that we can deploy and sustain a force certain of victory. The resources available at JMTC will ensure just that.

This emphasis on tough and realistic training does not diminish the importance of safety. Leaders are still responsible for risk management and emplacing and enforcing controls to minimize unnecessary risk. Composite risk management is an essential part of training just as it is essential to all operations. Effective risk management will enable us to act decisively without sacrificing precious resources to errors of omission. The JMTC can aid leaders and trainers in the integration of composite risk management into all operations through



**Brig. Gen. David G. Perkins, 7th Army JMTC**

direct links to the Army's Combat Readiness Center.

We face a resolute, learning, and adaptive enemy. To defeat him we must be just as resolute while learning and adapting more quickly than he. This requires a process of continual feedback, assessment, and execution in training just as in combat. Planning, preparing, conducting, and assessing the training to do this is tough. There are countless challenges and distractions that we face daily that make it even tougher. This means that we must maximize the effective use of the time and resources available to us. At JMTC we are committed to helping you prepare your Soldiers for combat through tough and realistic training that replicates the demands of war.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "D. G. Perkins".

David G. Perkins  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

# Operation Cadre Focus prepares Airmen for deployment

Story and photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs

**H**alf a dozen of the Air Force's Seventh Weather Squadron airmen spent a week at the 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command in Grafenwoehr, Germany, participating in a week-long exercise called Cadre Focus.

Cadre Focus is an exercise designed for Airmen deploying downrange in support of Army aviation operations and operation centers at, or above the division level.

In addition to training with tactical meteorological equipment they will use in the field, participants in the exercise also received a refresher course in basic warrior skills such as land navigation, map reading, convoy training and how to react to improvised explosive devices.

"Because the Air Force deploys personnel in four-month rotations and the Army for one year, this exercise was developed to ramp up Airmen deploying between Army cycles, and better familiarize them with situations they may face in working so closely with the Army in the field," said Air Force Capt. Matthew Stanley, officer in charge of the 7th Weather Squadron Detachment at Grafenwoehr.

"This training not only gives them the weather skills needed for our job, it also gives them familiarization with some of the things the Army does, those skills that we need so we are not a liability on a convoy," he said.


Stanley said the exercise is also a great opportunity to promote teamwork and cooperation between the two forces.

Cooperation and teamwork was indeed the name of the game during the exercise. Members of the 7th Weather Detachment called on several Army instructors from JMTC to complete various tasks.

Among the contributors were Soldiers from Grafenwoehr's Organizational Maintenance Activity.

For the convoy training portion of the exercise, the Air Force employed the services of instructors from the Sabot Academy. During their training, participants were taught how to react to improvised explosive devices and ambush attacks.

In the past, Cadre Focus has been held in Heidelberg but with the ongoing transformation of U.S. military forces in Europe, the Air Force has decided to shift the exercise to the 7th Army JMTC at Grafenwoehr. According to Master Sgt. Alexander Hubert, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Detachment 7 Battlefield Weather Team at Grafenwoehr, the reason for choosing this location was simple.

"We have the facilities and the ability to support a robust training program," Hubert said. "JMTC is training. We have the facilities and the Army expertise, which makes this the right place to do it." 



▲ Sgt. Jacob Delao from 7th Army JMTC OMA gives Cadre Focus students a quick lesson in the preventive maintenance of a Humvee.



▲ Staff Sgt. Joshua Smith, right, and Maj. Jose Harris react to sniper fire during a convoy training exercise Aug. 22 at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.



# Joint Multinational Warriors

**U.S., British Air Forces link up with Soldiers for high speed training**

By Chuck Gordon

JMTC Public Affairs

**D**espite the well-known rivalry between the Air Force and Army, sometimes a Soldier's best friend just might be a fighter pilot.

In fact, in today's battle environment, Soldiers on patrol in Iraq or Afghanistan are likely to find Air Force troops pounding dirt right beside them.

Some 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command Soldiers are working with their Air Force counterparts at Spangdahlem Air Base to train troops from both services to make the most of that kind of integration.

"The Joint Fires Center of Excellence exists to train Army and Air Force forward observers and Joint Terminal Attack Controllers," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Heath Hielsberg, JFCOE chief of training. "We run several classes each year, with class work done in Spangdahlem and hands-on exercises using facilities at Baumholder, Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels."

The program is a first for Europe, Hielsberg said.

"We're the only Europe-based joint firepower trainers," he explained. "Before we opened shop, most of



Photo by Maj. Eric Bloom



Photo by Maj. Eric Bloom



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

these guys had to be trained back in the States at Nellis Air Force Base, in Nevada.”

The European JFCOE stood up in October 2005, and was tasked with providing joint warfighting training focused on the effective integration and application of tactical fire.

“The courses we run include the Joint Firepower Course, Joint Terminal Attack Controller Qualification and Joint Fires Observer,” said Hielsberg.

Courses are split into classroom instruction and live, hands-on air weeks.

In August, JFCOE brought five Joint Terminal Attack Controller students to JMTC’s Grafenwoehr ranges for an air week exercise working with British Royal Air Force pilots flying Harrier attack jets as well as U.S. Air Force pilots flying F-15 Strike Eagles.

“It’s important that we integrate joint and multinational aspects into their training,” said Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason Meek, JTACS instructor. “When these guys are deployed downrange, they might be calling in air strikes from any one of the Coalition air forces.”

While working with the British pilots, JTAC students quickly discovered that a common language didn’t always make for clear communication.

“What (the British pilots) call a particular landmark or feature might not be what we would,” said Air Force Senior Airman David Ibsen. “You have to learn to deconflict terms, sometimes, to make sure we can guide them in.”

Even without the barrier of language, Hielsberg said, it’s not always easy to guide the air support in.

“One of the hardest things the JTACs have to do is relay an accurate visual description of physical terrain to the pilots,” he said.

In addition to their own eyes and equipment, however, the JTAC students also got to spend some time coordinating with Soldiers from the 1st Armored Division’s 1-1 Cavalry, who brought battlefield laser range-finding equipment and large-bore vehicle-mounted mortars into play.

“Communicating with the JTACS, we can drop rounds on target from miles away, while they’re controlling the airspace above the area and call-



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

ing in strikes from Apaches or fighter jets,” said Sgt. 1st Class Kerry D. Crudup, mortar platoon sergeant with the cav unit. “It all works together to bring firepower on the enemy.”

The JFCOE instructors teach from experience, most having been deployed themselves. Some of the students, also, had at least one deployment under their belts.

“In June 2003, I had 10 hours of continuous airstrikes. We hit a five-building compound and destroyed the buildings, six to nine vehicles and numerous insurgents,” said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Tim Pachasa, one of the JFCOE instructors.

That real-world experience intensifies the training, said JFCOE commander Air Force Lt. Col. Mark Hedman.

“You know (the Soldiers on the ground) need you there,” said Hedman, himself a Strike Eagle pilot. “There are perhaps troops in contact or some kind of situation where you are helping guys on the ground, so from a pilot’s perspective, these are some of the most rewarding missions I have flown.”

This training and the resulting abilities to coordinate both Air Force and Army close air support, direct and indirect fire and having “eyes on the ground” are invaluable, according to Hielsberg.

“I see it as a big force multiplier,” said Senior Airman Brandon Maxwell, who is with the 321st Special Forces Group at Mildenhall, England. “I’m going to be working with nine-to 10-man teams. If you run into a battalion-size force or a platoon, you can demolish it.”

Over the past year, about 50 students have been through the course, said Hielsberg. **TJ**

**Above: A British Royal Air Force Harrier lands at Grafenwoehr Airfield so the pilot can share an after-action report with students. Below: Senior Airman David Ibsen guides a pilot into the strike zone.**

**Opposite top: Staff Sgt. Jason Meek uses a range finder to take a reading on a target. Opposite center: Senior Airman Brandon Maxwell takes a reading as he calls for backup during operations at JMTC. Opposite below: 500-pound training bombs impact the strike zone.**



Photo by Maj. Eric Bloom



# OEF/ISAF

*JMTC thinking outside*



***U.S. Army Soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, create a secure perimeter for a German helicopter to land at the bottom of a mountain in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, to kick-off the high-altitude training to prepare Soldiers for OEF/ISAF.***



# TRAIN-UP

*‘the box’ in Bad Reichenhall, Germany*

## **Romania, U.S. Soldiers prepare for OEF/ISAF at German training center**

A company of Soldiers winds up a goat trail to the top of an Alpine mountain. Sweat drips from their foreheads and soaks their uniforms, its smell thick in the still summer air. There is little sound: birds chirp, Soldiers grunt under the weight of rucksacks and automatic weapons.

More than 100 Soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, along with 27 troops from the Romanian Army's 2nd Infantry Battalion, practiced combat operations in the mountainous terrain of the Bundeswehr's Bad Reichenhall training area in the German Alps June 14.

In playing the opposing forces for units training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, 1-4 Infantry Soldiers have seen their share of simulated combat. But this time OPFOR became the “blue forces,” training -- for the third time in two years -- for Afghanistan and Operation Enduring Freedom.

1-4 Infantry Soldiers and the Romanians, whose battalion they will deploy under, were in for a training session that Lt. Col. Timothy DeLass, commander, 1-4 Infantry described as “brutal.”

***“We wanted to give our guys the best that JMRC has to offer,”*** DeLass said. ***“They’re going to fall back on this stuff when they come up against the enemy in combat.”***





**A squad automatic weapon gunner from Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, acts as pointman providing forward security for his squad as the company and brigade commanders check their position on the map during combat operations in the mountainous terrain of the Bundeswehr's Bad Reichenhall training area in the German Alps June 14.**



**A squad of Romanian Soldiers from the Red Scorpion Brigade, Romanian Armed Forces, cautiously make their way up a steep mountain path in the German Alps during training June 14.**

**Top Right - A Soldier from Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, takes cover behind a rock formation as his unit prepares to engage opposing forces during high altitude training in Bad Reichenhall, Germany. Middle Right - Members of Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, offload from a Chinook helicopter during combat operations in the mountainous terrain of the Bundeswehr's Bad Reichenhall training area in the German Alps June 14. Bottom Right - Flames burst forth from the muzzle of the M249 as a Soldier from Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, opens fire on opposing forces dug in at the top of the mountain in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, June 14.**





The climb, which took the Soldiers up 1,000 vertical meters over three kilometers, will be helpful, as they are deploying to a mountainous region in Afghanistan. The ascent, according to most of the men climbing the mountain, was no walk in the park.

"This is hell," said Pvt. Leroy Kambeitz, rifleman, 2nd Platoon, 1-4 Infantry little more than halfway up the mountain. "We're hot, this (weapon) is heavy, we're running out of water and we still have who knows how much further to go."

Pessimism among the Soldiers was expected, though, said Lt. Col. Jenks Reid, "Warhog" team observer controller officer-in-charge, Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Hohenfels, Germany. He said the training was designed to push the participating Soldiers to the absolute limits of their physical capabilities.

"We're not so much concerned with the tactical scenario at the top as we are with getting (the Soldiers) up there. We're building their confidence," Reid said. "The idea is to get them acclimated to operating in mountains so it won't be the first time they've seen them when they get to Afghanistan."

To provide the deploying Soldiers with guidance on what they can expect in their area of operation downrange, JMRC brought in 11 subject matter experts from the 2nd Battalion of U.S. Army, Europe's 173rd Airborne Brigade, recently returned from Afghanistan. The paratroopers climbed the mountain with the training Soldiers, and offered their observations and advice.

"It's always good to have people who've been in the same situation here to let these guys know the reality of what they're up against," said Reid. "We were extremely fortunate to have these Soldiers on hand to help out."

The Romanian and American Soldiers trained together during the Mission Rehearsal Exercise to help establish a smooth working relationship for the deployment, DeLass said.

Lt. Col. Daniel Petrescu, the Romanian battalion commander, said he was happy to see progress toward developing a joint set of standard operating procedures for the deployment, as well as tactics, techniques and procedures.

"We have agreed about having the same SOP, and we are getting to understand each other's capabilities," Petrescu said. "We have to train as we fight, and we are training to make cooperation feel natural."

Once on top of the mountain, the multinational company organized into squads and began conducting a sweep of the landscape. Minutes later, the simulated fighting began.

Meeting resistance from dug-in positions in the rocky terrain of the mountaintop, the Soldiers advanced on the 14 opposing forces from one of Co. C's sister companies. During the 20-minute firefight, casualties were minimal on the multinational front, and the simulated enemy was neutralized, reported DeLass.

Col. Tom Vandal, commander, JMRC, said the success of this training, as well as the success of the 1-4 Infantry Soldiers downrange is of personal interest to him.

"We designed this exercise to be tough because (these Soldiers) are our OPFOR," he said. "We want to make sure that we've done everything in our power to ensure their success down range. We've trained them as hard as we can."





# NATO Regional Command South ramps up at JMCTC

*while Afghan Soldiers add authenticity to OMLT training at JMRC*

**Story and Photo By Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**A** major focus at the 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command in Grafenwoehr continues to be partnership, as coalition partners gathered here recently to prepare for upcoming deployments to southern Afghanistan.

Part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's ongoing International Security Assistance Force mission, the training exercise – dubbed Regional Command South – “was designed to organize the next command structure to take over RCS in Afghanistan,” said Maj. Stacy Elliott, chief of international operations for Joint Multinational Command Training Center.

JMCTC is a branch of JMTC that provides command staff training using a computer simulated training environment. JMCTC serves as the coordinating office for all U.S. Army, Europe simulations and provides joint training support for U.S. European Command and coalition partners. JMCTC also develops, maintains and administers the USAREUR Battle Command Training Center.

RCS headquarters is built around the Netherlands 43rd Mechanized Infantry Brigade, but is augmented with NATO forces. Once the command structure reaches Afghanistan, it will be renamed as the 43rd Multinational Brigade.

Danish Air Force Maj. Peder Rasmussen, who oversaw the exercise, noted that the brigade's uniqueness will be its truly multinational look. The brigade consists of Soldiers from almost 20 NATO nations, with its headquarters comprised of members from Netherlands, Canada and the United Kingdom.

“Our basic task for this training is to prepare units supporting the ISAF mission,” Rasmussen said. “We are teaching them respect of Afghan culture, customs, conduct and the Muslim religion. A huge part of our training here is related to living in Afghanistan.”

Besides cultural training, the staff



**Members of the U.S. Navy and Army work side-by-side with coalition partners to coordinate efforts during an ISAF training scenario.**

undergoes a series of possible scenarios to help the headquarters develop answers to potential obstacles.

According to Rasmussen, this partnership of U.S. and coalition forces enhanced the exercise.

“We have bonded so well with the Soldiers of JMTC,” he said. “They have met all of our needs to enable us to conduct this training.”

As their command staff trains at JMTC in Grafenwoehr, teams from nine other NATO countries took part in Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels. Soldiers from Norway, Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Sweden participated in the exercise, along with Soldiers from the Afghan National Army.

“This is the second OMLT training we have done here at JMRC,” said Maj. Eric Timmerman operations officer/observer controller for the JMRC Timberwolves. “The goal is for us to take multinational units and give them the basics of collective task training that prepares them for their deployment to Afghanistan. OMLT is replacing the U.S. embedded training team concept with a multinational

foundation of NATO partners.”

Such forces, Timmerman noted, come from different countries with diverse backgrounds and experiences. What JMRC does, he said, is give them a baseline of U.S. doctrine, which is also the baseline for teaching the Afghan National Army.

“The good news for this rotation,” Maj. Timmerman said, “is we are fortunate to have a platoon from ANA on the ground. They have been an incredible asset in every way to the training.”

According to Timmerman, the Afghan Soldiers have played a vital role in making the exercise more authentic. How? Before training began, they visited situational training exercise lanes; they examined role players and provided feedback; and they reviewed scenarios, making them more realistic and pertinent to operations in Afghanistan.

Additionally, the Afghan platoons broke into four squads and accompanied OMLT teams on exercise missions to providing even more field insight.

Both the command staff and OMLT forces will be deploying to Afghanistan following their respective training. **TJ**





# JMRC exports trainers to the Republic of Georgia

**Story and Photo By Karen S. Parrish  
USAREUR Public Affairs**

**M**aj. Gen. C.T. Shortis, then British director of infantry, said in 1985, "The infantry doesn't change. We're the only arm (of the military) where the weapon is the man himself."

U.S. Army, Europe Soldiers currently deployed to the Republic of Georgia's Krtsanisi training area near Tbilisi as part of a training task force might have an addition to that statement: adjusting the sight picture of the infantryman can make him more effective.

The Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program II (GSSOP II) Task Force in Georgia is made up of medics from the 212th Combat Support Hospital, based in Miesau, Germany, and Soldiers from Hohenfels' Joint Multinational Readiness Center, part of the Joint Multinational Training Command. Their mission is to train Georgian infantry battalions slated to deploy to Iraq.

Lt. Col. Craig Jones, previously chief of operations at JMRC and currently task force commander, said the sight picture adjustment stems from Georgia's status as a former Soviet republic.

"A lot of their training doctrine and focus is still based upon the Russian model," Jones said. "Our infantry training is focused on the Soldier ... specifically, when it comes to weapons, being incredibly accurate with individual weapons systems. In the Russian model, they're not concerned with the Soldier being accurate; they're concerned with the Soldier being able to fire a whole lot of rounds down range along with a bunch of other people. Unlike our forces – which use distance and security so that an enemy can't suppress multiple people – when they maneuver they stay bunched up, so it would be very easy for somebody they're fighting against to suppress multiple Soldiers because of their close proximity to one another."

Georgia is among the leading

coalition force providers in the Global War on Terror, behind only the U.S., and the training techniques used in Georgia have been widely discussed as a model for future coalition training in other nations, Jones said.

"Not only do I think this is great coalition training, but it's also the foundation of a direction that our Army is going to continue to head in the future," he said.

GSSOP II is the latest phase of U.S. European Command's engagement in Georgia, which began in 2002. The current task force deployed in June to conduct infantry training with three battalions during consecutive 12-week cycles. Jones said the last elements of the task force will complete the mission in April.

"The battalion that we just finished training goes to Iraq in November, the battalion that we're currently training will go into Iraq in March 2007, and then the battalion that we will train after the New Year will rotate into Iraq in May and June of 2007," he said.

The task force "Top," 1st Sgt. Johnny Shaw, said his Soldiers work to introduce American-style doctrine to Georgian troops by starting with individual-skill-level training.

"We start with individual movement techniques, basic rifle marksmanship, first aid – basic Soldier skills," Shaw said. "Then we move on up to team, squad and platoon collective tasks with company exercises, then end up with a battalion exercise."

Shaw said task force medics conduct combat lifesaver and advanced first aid training with at least one Soldier per squad, and an advanced



**Staff Sgt. Chris Sanchez, a sniper instructor with the GSSOP II Task Force, looks through a spotting scope while advising Republic of Georgia Soldiers on shooting techniques at the Krtsanisi training area near Tbilisi.**

combat lifesaver course for Georgian medics.

Shaw said task force members were well-prepared for their role in Georgia.

"A lot of us have been on training in Bulgaria and Poland, and we knew from that experience that we would need to adjust the amount of time spent on the training," he said. "The biggest adjustment at first is the language barrier. You've got to learn to do your translator speak: talk for a sound bite, pause, and wait for that to be translated. Other than that, most of the training is very similar to what we do in training American Soldiers."

Staff Sgt. Chris Sanchez, normally an observer/controller at Hohenfels, works with the Georgian Soldiers on sniper training.

"They're well motivated, they're always eager to train. Our guys are always back here early from lunch because they want to shoot. A lot of them have never picked up a scoped rifle before, but you can see them improving every day. They're fast learners, definitely," he said.

Maj. Niko Ikoshvili commands the Georgian 33rd Infantry Battalion, currently training with the task force, and said the Soldiers in the battalion have improved dramatically during the training.

"I know they will do a great job in Iraq," he said. **TJ**

# U.S. military doctors train Georgian counterparts in battlefield surgery



*Members of the United States Navy and Army work side-by-side with coalition partners to coordinate efforts during an ISAF training scenario.*

**Story and Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTc Public Affairs**

**A**t first glance, the classroom here at the Krtsanisi Training Center appears to be a laboratory out of an old movie. An observer might mistake it for a veterinarian's office, as amid a wide array of medical equipment and computers lie four large pigs slumbering on tables while nurses and lab technicians delicately prepare them for surgery.

It is neither, though, but rather a classroom where doctors and nurses from the Republic of Georgia army are learning emergency procedures known as combat casualty care.

At Krtsanisi, U.S. Army, Air Force and Navy medical professionals are sharing their wealth of experience as part of an ongoing U.S. European Command mission overseen by a U.S. Army, Europe, 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command task force known as the Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program II Task Force.

The primary mission of the program is to train the Georgian army in basic Soldiering skills that will transform them into a more professional fighting force, said the task force's boss.

"GSSOP II's primary focus is training the light infantry battalions of the 3rd Brigade as well as some specialty companies," explained Army Lt. Col. Craig Jones, the GSSOP II commander. "Among those specialty companies is the medical corps of the Georgian military."

Because EUCOM is a joint services command, all three branches of the U.S. military provided medical instructors in surgical combat casualty care.

"If you look at lessons learned, about 25 to 31 percent of casualties in a field environment are potential saves," said Air Force Col.

Renee Jaso, commander of the 433rd Medical Squadron. "They are potential saves if you use techniques that are the basics of what we do. But you cannot save them if you wait to get the Soldier back to a higher level of care."

"One thing we do is train our doctors to (deploy) with combatant units and to deliver these critical skills," he said. "Now we are doing the same thing with the Georgian army."

"They wanted an experienced staff to share these surgical techniques with them," Jaso added. "So we are giving them the benefit of lessons we have learned, to better prepare them to help their fellow Soldiers and their coalition allies."

Many of the students in the course will soon be deploying with Georgian combatant forces to augment troops in Iraq. Therefore, the U.S. instructors are training their Georgian counterparts to deal with issues they themselves have experienced downrange.

Moreover, Jaso noted, Georgian doctors and nurses are learning critical skills in treating three vital areas: airway, breathing and hemorrhaging.

"These are the three types of wounds you can save people from in theater – with your hands and very basic instruments," Jaso said. "In terms of what we are seeing in Iraq, the injuries we are seeing now are related to improvised explosive devices. Injuries like fragmentation and burns. These are things we are bringing to the Georgians and this model lab addresses those very issues."


Jaso added that fragmentation issues from IED encounters and the treatment of those wounds is different from what has been taught traditionally.

"We are teaching them procedures such as how to deal with a fracture on a patient, with enormous amounts of soft-tissue damage," he said. "These are the kind of procedures we are bringing to the Georgians and that they will definitely encounter in the field."

As to why four pigs were hooked up to IVs and anesthetized, Air Force Staff Sgt. Edward Chagoy, an instructor from the 433rd MDS, explained: "They are anatomically similar to humans." Jaso added that the lab was the "closest the students could come to working on actual patients without being in a major trauma center."

Ensuring a class schedule was created and adhered to was Air Force Maj. Barbara Marchiando, the team's medical administrative officer, who called the course "relatively problem-free."

"This has been an absolutely fantastic course," she said. "It was easy getting here and the Army has been wonderfully accommodating. We linked up with them and the Navy and they really jumped in to help."

Furthermore, "the Georgians have been fantastic," the major said. "They are eager to jump and have integrated very well into the course." 



# Instructors give Georgian S-2 lessons in military intelligence

**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**A**bout 30 Soldiers from the Georgian army recently received an eight-week block of instruction in the art of counter-terrorism and military intelligence.

The Military Intelligence Course is taught by a group of General Dynamics Company contractors, most of whom are retired from the United States military.

The program the training falls under, Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program II, is an ongoing U.S. European Command task force. The 7th Army Joint Multi-national Training Command assumed responsibility for the program from the U.S. Marine Corps.

"The overall program is to teach these Soldiers how battalion and brigade S-2 (intelligence) staffs function," explained team chief and retired Army Lt. Col. Tom Monell. "Primarily how the staff develops analytical products in order to provide courses of action and recommendations to a commander who has developed a concept of operation."

An important tool used to train these Soldiers is the Modified Combined Obstacle Overlay, said Monell. The MCOO is an intelligence preparation product.

"The MCOO applies the battle space of the area of operation," Monell said. "You will look at their severely restricted terrain and you will add into it your avenues of approach, mobility corridors, doctrinal templates and weather effects. It is an analytical product drawn on an overlay."

"We also explain the role the S-2 plays in influencing not only the enemy courses of action but friendly courses of actions so that the commander can develop the right concept," said Monell.

In any given scenario, students must defend an area or work as an offensive force. According to Monell, this exercise allows the Soldiers to



**Georgian Soldiers listen to a lecture on counter terrorism, during military intelligence training at the Ministry of Defense.**



**Instructor Bobby Alexander leads a discussion on counter terrorism during MI training.**

learn how to get into the mindset of the enemy as well as develop tactical and strategic skills.

The experience level of the class varies greatly, he said, adding, "Some of these officers have been working in intelligence for 12 years and some for only six months."

Despite the wide range of experience, said Monell, all students are embracing the MI concepts.

One student working to absorb these new concepts is Georgian Army Maj. Temuri Eubidze.

"This training is important for the integration of Georgia with NATO allies," Eubidze said. "The United

States has more experience with military intelligence and this training is vital for us."

Eubidze said the difference between these MI techniques and those taught to the Georgian Army under the former Soviet system is flexibility. Military intelligence was used more by the judicial system in the former Soviet Union, he said.

He said the training will be vital for the country of Georgia to reach its ultimate goal of joining the Allied Forces of NATO.

U.S. European Command's Sustainment and Stability Operations

**... see Military Intel. on Page 45**

# American Soldiers teach Georgian Army infantry techniques



**A Georgian PKM gunner scrambles into position during a movement to contact exercise at the Vaziani Training Area.**

**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**S**oldiers from the Georgian Army received hands-on training recently in how to move as a unit and engage any opposing force they encounter along the way from instructors deployed from the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Hohenfels.

The training, which took place at the Vaziani Training Center in Georgia, was conducted by the Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program II task force, led by the 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command.

Instructors from JMRC are taking the training they do with U.S. Army personnel and sharing it with Georgian Soldiers, some of whom have been in the military for only four months. The GSSOP program is a European Command mission, executed by JMTC Soldiers.

"The Georgian military, similar to our military, is undergoing a transformation," explained Brig. Gen. David Perkins, JMTC commander. "It is becoming a professional military force and they want to make sure their professional force starts out with a good bedrock of basic Soldier skills, just like the American Army. So we are focusing our training on the

skills that make a Soldier a professional. Skills such as marksmanship, land navigation, basic field craft and of course leadership, which is the backbone of all armies."

One particular day, JMRC instructors trained their Georgian counterparts in basic troop maneuvers.

"We have worked on movement to contact today," explained trainer Maj. Buck O'Day. "This morning we did a movement to contact that was pretty simple. It was primarily in an open area with some woods. This afternoon we did a second iteration that was a little more complex, involving bunkers and buildings as well as the area we used prior."

According to O'Day the movement-to-contact training is an important skill for units to be able to execute.

"You will use this kind of training anytime you are looking to gain and maintain contact with the enemy," he said. "It is very useful in both Iraq and Afghanistan. You need an operation like this when you are looking for the enemy. The circumstances are a little different but the principles are the same."


O'Day continued, "If they understand the principles we are teaching them here, they can apply them in any environment. If you understand and can execute a movement to contact and can execute it effectively, you can pretty much do just about any offensive military operation."

Principles of movement to contact will likely prove vital to the Georgian forces. Many of the units now being trained as part of the GSSOP program will soon be deployed to Iraq to work alongside U.S. and other coalition forces.

"This is excellent training for the Georgian Soldiers," O'Day said. "They will be working downrange with us, side-by-side with American Soldiers and Coalition partners. It is very important that we get them on the same level, and (that they understand) tactics that we use to become more effective partners."

American Soldiers were not the only instructors on the ground helping the Georgian troops. Also on hand to instruct was Staff Sergeant Mamuka Simonshvili of the Georgian Army. Simonshvili has been a Soldier in the Georgian Army since the beginning and is a veteran of the GSSOP training program.

Simonshvili said the training the troops are receiving is important and has already served on a deployment to Iraq.

"This is great training," he said. "It will be very important when they go to Iraq." 



**Georgian Soldiers return fire at opposing forces atop an abandoned Soviet MIG bunker during a movement-to-contact drill at the Vaziani Training Center.**



# U.S. Army instructors teach stability operations 101 to Georgian Forces



**Georgian Soldiers practicing cordon-and-search maneuvers rush a burnt-out building containing opposing forces at the Vaziani Training Area.**

**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**I**nstructors from the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Hohenfels have been busy sharing their extensive knowledge of infantry strategies and tactics with their fellow Soldiers from the Georgian Army. This training is part of the ongoing European Command mission being executed by the U.S. Army, Europe, 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command task force known as the Georgia Sustainment and Stability Operations Program II. The GSSOP II Task Force is training the Soldiers of the former Soviet country of Georgia.

"We are down here to make the Georgian Army a more capable Army," said Brig. Gen. David Perkins, JMTC commander. "We are instructing them on combat training, leadership techniques and how to operate in a combat environment. Basically creating a coherent well-trained unit."

According to Perkins, the GSSOP program and the work done by the Soldiers and JMRC instructors is vital to the growth of the Georgian military.

"The Georgian military, kind of like our military, is undergoing a transformation," he said. "It is becoming a professional military force and they want to make sure their new profes-

sional force starts out with a good bedrock of basic Soldier skills, just like the American Army."

As part of a 12-week training course, Georgian Soldiers undergo extensive training in company and battalion stability operations. Recently, the units practiced a technique called a cordon and search.

During this training, Soldiers learn how to work together to search a village for opposing forces and enemy supplies, and to establish a cordon position around that village once it has been secured.

According to Maj. Mike Willis, exercise training chief, the role of the JMRC instructors is a little different from what they would normally do back in Germany, but in many ways very similar to what he and his Soldiers would teach at JMRC.

"What this is, is a training assistance program," Willis explained. "These units are already formed, so what we are doing is showing them what our training techniques are. We are helping them from individual tasks to collective tasks up to company level. They already have their own chain of command; what we are doing is acting as advisors and mentors. In a lot of ways it is the same thing we do back at Hohenfels."

Willis said one of the biggest challenges his instructors have had was the language barrier.

"We teach through interpreters," Willis said. "Georgian and English don't translate directly, so a lot of concepts and terms have to be explained in different ways. We have had to find different ways of phrasing things that makes it easier for them to understand."

Despite the challenges, Willis said the Georgian Soldiers have been easy to work with.

**... see Stability Ops on Page 45**



**From left: Interpreter Levan, Maj. Mike Willis, and hospital corpsman Sherrell Massenburg from the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth discuss the exercise outcome with Samson Akhulediani, the Alpha Company commander.**

# U.S. Marine

# Corps

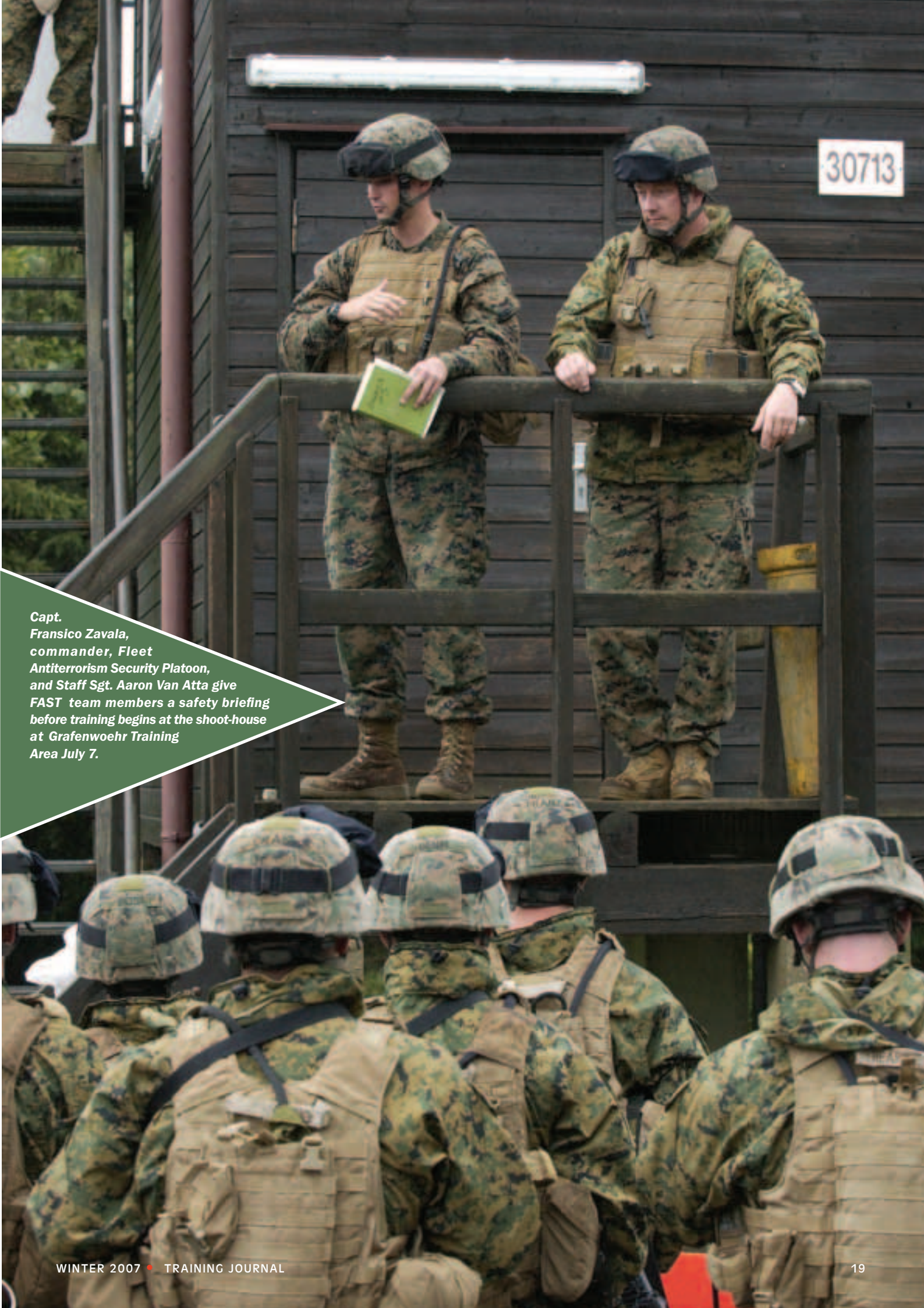


# hits GRAF

# hard, *FAST*

Story and photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson





*Capt. Fransico Zavala, commander, Fleet Antiterrorism Security Platoon, and Staff Sgt. Aaron Van Atta give FAST team members a safety briefing before training begins at the shoot-house at Grafenwoehr Training Area July 7.*





*FAST team members practice two-man entries into a hostile urban environment at the shoot-house at the Grafenwoehr Training Area July 7.*



*A Marine from the Fleet Antiterrorism Security Platoon from Rota, Spain, performs the proper technique for throwing a grenade July 7 at Grafenwoehr Training Area.*



# Corps Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team hones skills at Grafenwoehr Training Area

In addition to its ongoing mission of training U.S. Army Soldiers and troops from partner nations, The 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command recently hosted members of the Marine Corps Security Force Company Europe. Marines spent several days taking advantage of the various live-fire ranges at Grafenwoehr.

Among the participants was the Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team (FAST Platoon) from Rota Spain. The FAST Platoon's primary mission is to provide expeditionary site security, explained Capt. Francisco Zavala, FAST Platoon commander for the Marine Corps Security Force in Europe.

"We guard assets vital to national security," Zavala said. "Assets such as embassies, naval assets, any critical materials on submarines or ships, we would help provide security for that."

When augmentation is needed for security efforts throughout Europe and parts of Africa, the FAST Platoon is called on to do the job.

One of the primary types of training conducted by the Marines during their stay with JMTC took place at the shoot-house. The shoot-house is a group of model buildings, without roofs, designed to help teams practice building patrols using live-fire scenarios. The FAST Platoon utilized the shoot-house to better hone their skills in the area of conducting urban assault entry drills, a procedure vital to the platoon's mission.

"This training is helpful to our unit for a couple reasons," Zavala explained. "If we go in to guard an embassy for example, and the embassy is captured by the enemy or parts of it are captured, this training allows us to be able to go in and recapture that building. It is also helpful, since most of us are infantrymen, as part of our overall basic training."

The Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas represent some of the best environments in the world for training. With 57,000 acres of ranges and training areas, it provides the U.S. Army, Air Force, Joint Special Operating Forces, and militaries of our partner nations with a world-class environment. This made the area ideal for providing for the needs of the visiting Marines.

Zavala said that there was one simple reason the team

chose to come to Grafenwoehr for their training: "Awesome ranges."

He said, "There are incredible opportunities here to do live-fire training. The range facilities and the live-fire opportunities are just wonderful."

According to Zavala, what made JMTC ideal for their training was the versatility of the base's shooting ranges.

"On one base we are able to fire all of our weapons," Zavala said. "It is amazing to be able to accomplish what we have here in the last two weeks."

Zavala said that the reception the Marines received from their Army counterparts at the 7th Army Joint Multinational Training Command was a warm one.

"Everyone has been so helpful," he said. "We may speak a little different language than the Army, but everyone has gone out of their way to help us out. If we had a small bump in the road, every Soldier has gone out of their way to help us out and make this training happen."

Many of the visiting Marines expressed their positive experience at Grafenwoehr.


"Grafenwoehr has a nice chow hall and this has been one of the best shoot-houses we have ever trained in," said Lance Cpl. Bartlett Heard, a rifleman with the FAST platoon.

Lance Cpl. Scott Maison, from Massachusetts, had a similar opinion of the Army training area.

"The Army definitely has pretty good facilities and it is good of them to loan out their resources to help us train," he said.

"Everyone has been really friendly, asking us questions," Maison said. "It is great to see sister services working together."

Maison said this training session was a great opportunity for him as a Marine.

"We don't really get a lot of chances to practice close quarters battle," Maison explained. "So any refresher training we Marines get here is really good to keep us up to par. Skills like these and shooting are definitely a really perishable skill. Even if we don't use these skills while we are with this platoon, the skill sets that we have are ones that a lot of Marines don't get. If we can pass those skills on to other Marines, we can save lives in the future." 

*“There was one simple reason the team chose to come to Grafenwoehr for training; awesome ranges. There are incredible opportunities here to do live-fire training. The range facilities are just wonderful.”*

Capt. Francisco Zavala, commander, FAST Platoon



# ***World-class for Soldiers***



*American, Slovenian and German Soldiers from Alpha Company Class 07-06 double-time from obstacle 12, known as the wall, to the finish line of the confidence course during the Warrior Leader Course at Grafenwoehr's NCO Academy.*



# training worldwide



**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTCC Public Affairs**

**T**he U.S. Army noncommissioned officer corps has been evolving over the course of history into its present form, based on time-honored traditions and lessons learned from more than 230 years of experience.

Continuing that tradition, the 7th Army NCO Academy in Grafenwoehr, Germany, is providing cutting-edge training to multinational and joint services to support the ever-changing demands of today's military mission, where Soldiers find themselves working alongside their allied counterparts more and more.

According to Command Sgt. Maj. Erik R. Frey, 7th Army NCO Academy commandant, there is no other NCO corps like ours in the world, and many countries want to develop their armies using the philosophies and techniques that we have used to hone NCO leaders.

"Throughout history, continuing into today's theater, we truly go to the fight with our coalition partners, and it is essential that we have an understanding of how each Army operates and what they bring to the fight," Frey said.

The young NCOs that come through the Warrior Leader Course are at the ground level executing our countries bidding, Frey said.

"They work closely with our allied partners, and for our NCOs to have a cultural understanding and the confidence that another NCO can perform to the same standard as them gives them a higher chance of successfully completing the mission," the commandant said.

Since this is truly a joint coalition fight it allows our partners to better understand the way the American Army operates. Many of the U.S. Army allies believe in our NCO system and are actually working at duplicating it within their armies, he said.

"There is a laundry list of countries wanting to train with us," said Sgt. 1st Class Leigh Perry, chief of training, 7th Army NCO Academy. "We have kind of turned into a mini-NATO type school. The interest level from other countries is largely due to the fascination with how well the NCO corps supports the officer corps – we're really the only Army that does that."


Soldiers from these allied forces have more than just found the program helpful, they are excelling in it, she said.

"In a recent class we had a Slovenian Soldier become a distinguished honor graduate for his company," Perry said. "He was a bona fide honor graduate and did not receive any special treatment. So it shows that other countries are sending us the best of the best."

While German Soldiers do not attend the course, the NCO Academy works in collaboration with their NCO program in Weiden, Germany, by participating in a series of partnership events.

"Working with our German counterparts is a great opportunity for students to see how other armies operate," Perry said. "I believe that these events, coupled with working with students from other countries, better prepare Soldiers for the field environment, in which they find themselves working side-by-side with their coalition counterparts."

Frey said training multinational Soldiers at the 7th Army NCO Academy positively impacts the overall Army mission now and for the future.

"It enables the U.S. Army to hand over sectors while being confident that our allied NCOs and armies understand the way we do business and can independently operate, understanding the commander's full intent," Frey said. "This will allow our forces to concentrate on other areas of emphasis and keep our forces from being spread too thin." 





**Sgt. 1st Class William Carter from the 7th Army NCO Academy encourages Cpl. Emil Ferlic of the Slovenian army to complete the pipe trench obstacle as WLC class 06-07 finishes the confidence course in Grafenwoehr.**





*Left - Sgt. Joel Hart navigates his way across and over the wall as WLC class 06-07 takes on the confidence course at the 7th Army NCO Academy in Grafenwoehr.*

*Below- A Polish Soldier from Alpha Company emerges from a tunnel during the confidence course run of the Warrior Leader Course class 06-07.*







*Assistant Platoon Leader Demitry Miller, Russian armed forces, interacts with U.S. Soldiers at the 7th Army NCO Academy.*

“Throughout history, continuing into today’s theater, **we truly go to the fight with our coalition partners,** and it is essential that we have an understanding of how each Army operates and what they bring to the fight.”

-- Command Sgt. Maj. Erik R. Frey, commandant, 7th Army NCO Academy





*A German Soldier defies gravity as he hurtles from the jump and land station during the confidence course at the 7th Army NCO Academy in Grafenwoehr.*



# 7th Army NCO Academy driving force behind 2006 SOY/NOY

Story by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs

**F**or the four enlisted Soldiers and four noncommissioned officers participating in the 2006 U.S. Army, Europe Soldier/NCO of the Year competition in September, it was three days of intensive events testing all of their warrior skills.

But for the cadre of the 7th Army NCO Academy, which has hosted the event for the last three years, the competition was the culmination of months of hard work.

Command Sgt. Maj. Luniasolua T. Savusa, USAREUR command sergeant major, said JMTC was selected to host the event for two reasons.

"JMTC has always provided an outstanding, tough, realistic professional event," Savusa said. "The 7th Army NCO Academy executes the competition because they have always provided the competitors with 'real-life' scenario-driven events, and the Grafenwoehr training area is ideal for the competition because it has all the required resources to execute a first-class major command level event."

Preparation for this event began following the end of the 2005 competition. And despite simultaneously running a full Warrior Leader Course, the cadre from the NCOA still managed to create an event they could be proud of.

"While we were running this event we were concurrently running a Warrior Leader Course cycle which had 364 students. All of the testers and evaluators are working twice as hard to make this event a success," said Command Sgt. Maj. Erik R. Frey, academy commandant.

"The NCO Academy takes great pride in being able to host and conduct the 2006 USAREUR SOY/NOY competition," Frey added.

The USAREUR competition mirrors the U.S. Army-level challenge, he said. The same tasks, conditions and standards are used as the basis for both events.

Soldiers winning the USAREUR



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

**Master Sgt. Jeffery Brewer discusses plans for the day's training events with cadre from the 7th Army NCO Academy.**



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

**Sgt. 1st Class David Orr explains the mission at the start of the medical lane during the 2006 SOY/NOY Competition.**



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

**Sgt. 1st Class Chris Oney of the NCO Academy checks the batteries on a contestant's MILES gear before the start of the STX Lanes portion of the 2006 SOY NOY competition.**





Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

*Spc. Robert Kolakowski lies for hours covered in pig intestines to help simulate an abdominal wound victim during the medical lane of the 2006 SOY/NOY competition.*





Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

**Staff Sgt. Shane Stankiewicz reviews grenade identification with a contestant during the 2006 SOY/NOY competition at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.**

competition are prepared to succeed at the Army level, Frey said.

“Overall, we have more than 60 Soldiers who supported this event, including our German partnership NCO Academy in Weiden,” said Frey.

At the center of planning for this event was Master Sgt. Jeffery Brewer, NCO in charge of the competition for the past three years. Brewer has created events and trained the individuals helping with each event.

“Last year the Soldier who won the Department of the Army NCO competition said the reason he won was because this competition prepared him for it,” Brewer said.

“We designed this year’s competition to prepare a Soldier that wins this competition to win at the upper level,” he continued, adding, “It isn’t a guarantee he or she will win, but if a Soldier can get maximum points here during the events they will have no problem competing at the DA level.”

The main goal of this year’s competition was to provide realistic events, Brewer said.

“Our intent was to have combat-driven scenarios throughout the entire competition,” he said.

The competition included what Brewer termed “weapons immer-



Photo by Spc. Jerry Wilson

**Volunteers mount up in a convoy to travel to the STX training lanes.**



Photo by SPC. Jerry Wilson

**Spc. Orguilbe Martinez of Bravo 1-4 gives a realistic performance as a Soldier with a head injury during the medical lane portion of the 2006 SOY/NOY competition.**





**A judge from the 2006 SOY/NOY competition observes a contestant as he performs the proper procedure to activate a claymore mine.**



**Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Carpenter of the NCOA discusses the proper technique of throwing a grenade during the 2006 SOY/NOY competition.**

sion,” where the contestants had to carry their weapons around the clock — just like in combat.

Level one pre-combatives and urban orienteering were also added to the event’s challenges, he said.

And, just like in a combat environment, the participants were not allowed any downtime during the competition. From start to finish, day and night, the participants were constantly doing something, Brewer said.

Work on the 2006 event began with the 2005 competition, he said.

“We started planning for this competition following the After-Action Report from last year’s event,” said Brewer. “When we developed this year’s program we took comments from last year and the year before, and combined them with lessons learned to make further improvements to the flow of the competition.”

Many of the improvements Brewer and his team made to this year’s events revolved around the situational training exercise portion of the competition. The biggest change was reducing the training area from 20 square kilometers to 10, ensuring that all events could be completed within 14 hours.


Brewer said the biggest obstacle he faced in planning the competition was manpower, but the academy’s NCOs were up to the challenge.

“It is resource intensive from a personnel standpoint,” he said. “The fact that we are hosting this during an active WLC cycle has my Soldiers working twice as hard to ensure a professional event.”

Some cadre members worked late into the evening and on weekends, he said.

Additionally, Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment acted as role-players during many of the events.

Brewer credits the success of the 2006 SOY/NOY competition to the collaborative efforts of all the Soldiers supporting the competition.

“My team never dropped the ball,” said Brewer. “After three years of doing this we have it down to a science and look forward to many years to come.” 





# 173rd paratroopers Jump en masse

*Story By Arthur McQueen  
USAREUR Public Affairs*



By the numbers: as eight C-130 Hercules transports slowed to 130 knots 800 feet above the ground, more than 700 U.S. and German paratroopers jumped from the aircraft, living up to the embroidered wings on their uniforms.

The Oct. 16 and 17 jumps marked the first mass tactical jump by the four Germany-based battalions of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team since the BCT's Sept. 15 designation as a modular unit.

The exercise will not be the last, though, for the troops located in Bamberg and Schweinfurt, and who are part of a 173rd that is now six battalions strong. The headquarters and two remaining battalions are based in Vicenza, Italy.

"This is just the beginning," said Col. Charles A. Preysler, 173rd commander.

The jumps kicked off a series of training events meant to build teams and mold unit leaders into an effective combat force, Preysler said, as the battalions progressed through small-unit live fire and artillery training on Joint Multinational


 **Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team deploy their chutes after exiting a C-130 Hercules Transport aircraft.**

Photo by Paula J. Guzman





▲ **Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team gather their chutes on Bunker Drop Zone in the unit's first mass tactical jump since transformation.**

Training Command ranges in Grafenwoehr.

These exercises “are the building blocks that enable our Soldiers to progress in their critical skills,” Preysler said. “Getting boots on the ground safely is essential to being a paratrooper.”

On the first day's jump, Soldiers contended with over-cast skies, a slight breeze and communication problems.

The second day, however, was nearly perfect, with minimal winds and few issues, according to combat jump veteran Sgt. 1st Class Michael Levesque.

“It was a textbook operation,” said Levesque, who in his five years with the 173rd has run more than 30 drop zones.

Levesque's team, which organized and oversaw the jump, included Air Force liaison officers from the 37th Airlift Squadron out of Ramstein Air Base, Germany; medics, and a detail of troops collecting parachutes on the drop zone.

“It was beautiful jump,” said German Army Staff Sgt. Salvatore Grillo. “It's a beautiful day to be a Soldier.”

Grillo was one of 29 German cadre and students from the German Army Parachute School to join 173rd members on the second day's jump.


The combined jump enabled the German Soldiers to earn American jump wings – officially, the U.S. Army Parachutist Badge.

“We have been working with the German Airborne for quite a while, using their 34-foot jump tower,” Preysler said. “Thanks to them, we have been able to complete all our Basic Airborne Refresher training.”

Preysler also noted the value of JMTC's facilities.

“This is one of the premier training spots in the world. It offers us a very large drop zone, and offers live fire training in conjunction with this airborne operation,” he said. “We really couldn't do that anywhere but here.”

One of many recently-assigned 173rd Soldiers who participated in the event, 1st Sgt. William Groene of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop 1-91 Cav., critiqued the exercise with the enthusiasm of a relatively novice jumper and the perspective of a senior NCO.

Groene, completing his first jump since he earned his wings in 1986, said, “I waited 20 years to do this again. I volunteered for it. This jump is getting us one step closer to being combat ready.” 



▲ **Sgt. 1st Class Michael Levesque, drop zone safety officer, confers with lieutenants Nick Browning and Charles Kirkham, of the 37th Airlift Squadron, Ramstein, on the upcoming drop of 700 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team Soldiers.**



# Army Europe airborne cavalry Soldiers train at JMRC



**Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment evacuate wounded during a training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels.**

**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**T**he Joint Multinational Readiness Center opened its doors to members of the 1st Squadron, 91st U.S. Cavalry Regiment for a unit level training event. In a shift from its usual training of units preparing to deploy, JMRC completely resourced the squadron-level exercise, providing the 1-91 Cavalry with state-of-the-art facilities and personnel to conduct some incredibly realistic training.

“Normally to come to JMRC you have to be on a mission readiness exercise preparing for combat or a validation exercise for combat,” explained Capt. Nathan Springer, commander, B Troop, 1-91 Cavalry. “This was a squadron-level training event that was fully resourced by JMRC. It has never happened in my

seven years in the Army and I am not sure if it ever will again. This has been absolutely amazing and really a great honor for our unit.”

The reason for allowing this type of training at JMRC was explained by Lt. Col. Jenks Reid, senior maneuver observer/controller (Warhogs). Reid said this exercise was the start of new opportunities for units to receive more realistic training at JMRC.

“The 1-91 Cavalry’s training was scheduled earlier this year and happened to fall on the calendar during a time when we were not conducting an MRE or other major training event,” Reid said. “The training was significant because it was unit planned and executed and the chain of command was in charge of their own training from day one.

1-91 Cavalry leaders also conducted their own AARs instead of JMRC

O/Cs. This approach to training placed the burden of planning and certifying training back on the unit leadership.

“JMRC provided many of the training resources and during this time of constrained resources in our Army this requirement is a huge burden lifted from the unit,” said Reid. Based on resource availability and funding from the unit, the Joint Multinational Readiness Center offers realistic training resources such as OPFOR, civilians on the battlefield, MOUT facilities, an MRX vehicle fleet, FOBs for billeting, MILES, and a state of the art instrumented range for use in the AAR.

“In the future our intent at JMRC is to get involved in exercise/STX design with the units up front (particularly for non-combat arms units) and assist them with their STX lanes



design and setup, to include resource coordination and safety,” Said Reid, “JMRC will also provide limited O/C coverage for units during non-rotational training periods.”

Springer said each platoon went through three training lanes. Information and lessons learned from the first lane were used to help build the second and third missions.

In the first scenario, troops entered a replica of an Iraqi village, populated with villagers dressed in traditional attire and designed to add to the exercise ambience. The village had not been occupied by American troops for six months. This was to be a fact-finding mission for the platoon. Troops patrolled the village looking for vital information such as the disposition of the residents and whether or not the people were friendly with coalition forces.

Upon completion of each session of training, the platoon was asked a series of questions to determine their performance. The information they provided would be used as a basis to form the second scenario.

During the second mission each team had to locate a contact. The contact had information concerning a high-value target within the village. During each scenario Soldiers had to react to various challenges during the course of the mission, including ambushes and improvised explosive devices. Platoons had to practice their ability to adjust to indirect fire as well as evacuating casualties.

All of this preparation set the stage for the final mission, during which each platoon planned and operated a platoon-level raid on the high-value target. Each team was required to coordinate a quick reaction force.

“Coordinating a quick reaction force to come into the objective is much harder than people think,” Springer said. “There are link-up points, coordination points that involve a lot of preparation. The training objective for the last lane will be can we get in? Can we kill or capture the high-value target? If the town goes from permissive to non-permissive how do we break contact while at the same time calling in the QRF to come in and get our Soldiers out of the town with the target?”

Springer said the scenarios were created by using combat experience provided by Soldiers redeployed to help train forces to adapt to the ever-changing mission in Iraq.

“Throughout the years we have gained experience,” Springer said. “What we have seen downrange and how the tactics, techniques and procedures have changed from when we were in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom II to now. Most of the Soldiers in B Troop have been to OIF I and II and the atmosphere and rules of engagement were different so we

... see 1-91 CAV on Page 45



▲ **Soldiers from the 1-91 CAV take cover behind their vehicle during a training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels.**

▼ **2LT. Alex Newsom radios for support while ordering his troops to cover the buildings across the street during a training exercise at the Ubungsdorf MOUT Site in the JMRC Training Area at Hohenfels.**





# Infantry training reinforces leaders' combat skills

Photo by Gary L. Kieffer



▲ **Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team assault a building during Omega Training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.**

**Story By Sgt. Aimee Millham,  
USAREUR Public Affairs**

**O**n a battlefield where the enemy attacks anytime, anywhere and anyone, every Soldier from clerk to logistician has to be ready to fight.

In the reality of waging an anti-insurgency war, "Everyone's a rifle-man," said Maj. Anthony Lugo, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team fire support officer.

Lugo was the project manager for Omega Training, a four-day event that brought together senior leaders from the 173rd ABCT to refresh the basic combat skills every Soldier needs to stay alive downrange.

"I want them to know the basics so they can secure themselves, and I can do my job," said infantryman Capt. Josh McGary, a 173rd company commander, referring to non-infantry comrades training with him in early October at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Hohenfels, Germany.

The event – which was for commanders, first sergeants, staff officers and senior noncommissioned officers – was the first of its kind for the 173rd. The training included learning how to conduct a patrol and

clear a building, and also reviewed deceptively simple tasks like how to safely cross a road.

"Stay away from the center of the road, and avoid intersections," said Capt. Tom Bostick, a 173rd infantry company commander. "That's the kill zone."

Tips like these demonstrated the reasoning behind the training plan, according to Lugo. The 95 paratroopers, all from different military specialties, were mixed together and split into six squads to learn from each other as they cleared buildings and carried out dismounted patrols.

"Really, they're mostly learning from us infantrymen," McGary said with a chuckle.

Aside from reviewing tactical skills, the event gave leaders a chance to fine-tune several of the unit's standard operating procedures for various combat situations, according to Col. Charles A. Preysler, 173rd ABCT commander, who designed the training event.

"We're addressing the issues with our SOPs, since everyone has different ideas on how to do things," the colonel said.

These differences include variances in the way commanders conduct

convoy operations or how to move from a wood-line to a building they're about to raid, Bostick said. Deciding which way is the "right way" during training could save lives in a combat situation.

"We had a vehicle break down on us during a supply run in the middle of a main street in Fallujah," said Capt. John Thyng, a 173rd logistician. "I really could've benefited from this training at that moment."

The event not only gave 173rd leaders basic combat skills training, it also served as a chance for many of the unit's leaders to meet fellow officers and senior NCOs for the first time. As a result of its recent transformation to a six-battalion brigade from a three-battalion brigade, the 173rd has a number of new troops, with units stationed in both Germany and Italy.

Omega was part of a series of training events that will ensure the newly transformed brigade is ready for future deployments by June 2007, Preysler said.

"We don't have orders yet, but we'll be ready when they come," he said.

■



Photo by Gary L. Kieffer

▲ **Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team provide cover fire while preparing to assault a building during Omega Training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.**



# German paratroopers earn U.S. jump wings at JMTC

**Story and Photos by Spc. Jerry Wilson  
JMTC Public Affairs**

**T**he skies over the Seventh Army Joint Multinational Training Command rained American and German Soldiers Oct. 17. Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade were joined by 49 Soldiers from the Bundeswehr for a massive parachute jump. Joining the American paratroopers were members of the 26th Airborne Brigade – which has paratroopers currently deployed to the Congo – and instructors from the airborne and air-transport school in Altenstadt.

In keeping with a long-standing tradition within the paratroop community, following the successful jump, the 49 German Soldiers were presented with U.S. jump wings. According to the tradition, each jump with other nation's forces earns the Soldier the right to wear that country's wings. The ceremony was held at the landing zone and the wings were presented by Col. Skip Davis, Southern European Task Force chief of staff, and Col. Sean Callahan, the 173d deputy commander.

"Every chance we get to work with our European partners, especially the airborne Soldiers or special forces, is always a joy and special opportunity for us," said Davis. "These are potential partners when we get deployed around the world."

The cadre from Altenstadt recently hosted about 350 paratroopers from the 173rd who went through airborne refresher training at the German school in preparation for the JMTC jump.

"When a paratrooper has not jumped for a certain length of time," explained Davis, "before he jumps again we have the Soldier jump from a 34-foot tower to prepare. We used (the German) tower."

According to Davis, the airborne refresher course would normally be held in Vicenza, Italy. This was the first time the U.S. has used the German facility.

"It would have been too far for Soldiers here to travel to Vicenza to go through the training, so the cadre



**SETAF chief of staff Col. Skip Davis pins American jump wings on Maj. Andreas Bernhardt of the German Airborne School in Altenstadt.**



**SETAF chief of staff Col. Skip Davis pins jump wings on a German Soldier following the mass jump at Grafenwoehr.**

at Altenstadt graciously offered their services," Davis said.

Participants agreed this type of coalition training is important not only to the American Soldiers but to their German counterparts as well.

"We had a fantastic pre-jump training with the U.S. jumpmasters," said Col. Jörg Gruner of the 26th Airborne Brigade. "They were very professional and we know they can

do their job. Training together is very important because you always meet the same people going into missions. The first footprint is always made by these Soldiers. We know each other and these training opportunities create good conditions to complete successful missions. There is a common base all airborne Soldiers have and that comes from this common training together." **TJ**



# KFOR Balkans 8 MRX



**Story by Spc. Stephen Proctor  
17th Public Affairs Detachment**

After months of training, Task Force Red Dragon stands ready to promote and enforce safety and security during Kosovo Force Rotation 8.

TF Red Dragon consists of Company A, 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment from the Massachusetts Army National Guard, Company B, Company C. and Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 116th Brigade Combat Team from the Virginia Army National Guard.


Since August 2006, TF Red Dragon has been training for KFOR 8 along with other 29th Infantry Division units. They began the mobilization process at Camp Atterbury, Ind., and concluded with a mission readiness exercise in Hohenfels, Germany.

"At Hohenfels, we've had training on riot control, reconnaissance patrols, and security patrols," said 2nd Lt. James Covington, Bravo Co., TF Red Dragon.

But the KFOR mission is about more than foot patrols and riot control, it is also about connecting with the

people of Kosovo.

"We also learned how to get to know the people and how to talk to them through an interpreter," said Covington. "We have to be sensitive to the culture of the Kosovo people to make sure we're helping to ease tensions, and not adding to them."

According to Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Moore, after more than two months of training "We're fully prepared and ready to perform our mission." 

***Below: Soldiers from TF Red Dragon practice riot control techniques during a training exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, Oct. 28.***

***Opposite, top left: Members of TF Red Dragon interview a citizen of 'Vitina' through an interpreter during a cordon-and-search training mission in Hohenfels, Germany, Nov. 4.***

***Bottom left: Sgt. Douglas Milne, TF Red Dragon, Liaison and Monitoring Team leader, conducts a last-minute radio check before a training exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, Oct. 26.***

***Far Right: TF Red Dragon Soldiers are assaulted by mock rioters during a training exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, Oct. 28.***







*Photo by Spc. David House*



*Photo by Spc. Stephen Proctor*



*Photo by Pfc. Matthew C. Moeller*





# KFOR Cavalry Soldiers roll on

Photo by Spc. Teirney M. Medeiros



**Top:** Task Force Patriot infantry Soldiers from Company D check out a Bradley Fighting Vehicle with Bravo Troop cavalry Soldiers for cross-training purposes. **Bottom:** A Soldier with B Troop, Task Force Patriot holds his position during urban operations training at Camp Albertshof in Hohenfels, Germany, Oct. 21.

Photo by Pfc. Matthew C. Moeller



## How Task Force Patriot remembers its history as it makes its way into a new Army

**Story by Spc. Teirney M. Medeiros  
17th Public Affairs Detachment**

**T**roops from the Massachusetts Army National Guard prepared to support Multi-National Task Force (East) during Kosovo Forces Rotation 8.

The 1st Squadron, 182nd Cavalry Regiment was one of the first units in the U.S. Army, and 182nd Soldiers in TF Patriot are ready to add another chapter to that long history.

"The 182nd was formed when the Boston colonists pulled together and organized as part of the North Regiment on Oct. 7, 1636," said Capt. Todd Riviezzo, Bravo Troop commander, Task Force Patriot.

In April 1861 the unit was ordered to active service in the defense of Washington D.C., later participated in the battle of "Bull Run." It was finally mustered out in Boston, later that year.

In July 1920, the unit became a part of 5th Infantry, Massachusetts National Guard. Then, in 1923, they were designated the 182nd Infantry Regiment of the 26th Infantry Division.

Ever since its origin, the regiment has existed in one form or another, and made its biggest change yet in 2006.

The 29th Infantry Division's 26th Brigade Combat Team needed a cavalry troop, and Sept. 1, under the direction of the U.S. Army's transformation plan, the infantry light fighters of the 182nd became cavalry scouts.

The main mission of an infantryman is engaging the enemy. A cavalry scout's main mission is reconnaissance, which entails information gathering and indirect fighting, according to Riviezzo.

"My main mission as a company commander for the past year was to make sure all my Soldiers went through the Cavalry Scout Transfor-





*Photo by Pfc. Matthew C. Moeller*

**Top: A Task Force Patriot Soldier waits at the ready during a quick reaction force exercise at Camp Albertshof in Hohenfels, Germany, Oct. 26. He will join the rest of Task Force Patriot as they deploy to Kosovo this year. Below: 1st Lt. Joseph Digiovanni, Task Force Patriot civil affairs officer, hands out informational fliers to local townspeople during a mission readiness exercise.**

mation Class, as well as to continue the mission of preparing for Kosovo," said Riviezzo.

"Being light infantry, we walked everywhere, so we had quite a bit of training ahead of us," he said.

Troops had to learn to work with Humvees by becoming familiar with preventive maintenance checks and services and taking the accident avoidance course and U.S. Army, Europe driving test.

"We had to learn night driving techniques and how to do patrols with vehicles," said Spc. Dale F. Lind, a Task Force Patriot Soldier with the 182nd. "There was also some training on how to use the radios."


Along with all the extra training the Soldiers went through to become proficient in their new military occupation specialty, they had to remain tactically and technically proficient in their everyday Soldier skills.

"The training for the mission in Kosovo was initiated about the same time we found out we were transforming," said Riviezzo. "So, we've done a lot of individual and group training throughout the last year."

Though the transformation was difficult, it had its advantages. The Soldiers inherited a new set of traditions to incorporate into the unit, such as wearing the cavalry's traditional Stetson hat and spurs.

Despite the obstacles tossed at the unit over the past year, the Soldiers are ready for their mission and proud

to serve the 182nd.

"I've been in the National Guard for five and half years," said Lind, "I live in Hampton, New Hampshire and drill in Melrose, Massachusetts ... I'm very proud of my unit." 



*Photo by Spc. Telrney M. Medeiros*



# Engineering partnership – saving dollars, saving lives

*Reserve component Soldiers building relationships, facilities with JMRC, partner nations*



**Engineers from the North Dakota National Guard build MOUT site buildings at Hohenfels, Germany, during summer annual training.**

**Story by Chuck Gordon**  
**Photos by Maj. Eric Bloom**  
**JMTC Public Affairs**

**A** partnership between the Joint Multinational Readiness Center and the Army National Guard is transforming a slice of the Hohenfels Training Area into a realistic depiction of conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Every year, JMRC provides training for thousands of Soldiers slated for deployment to some of the Army's most active and dangerous areas of responsibility. As part of the Joint Multinational Training Command, JMRC provides maneuver, military operations in urban terrain and live-fire training for Soldiers and other troops from U.S. and partner nation military forces.

JMRC has been tasked by the Army to construct a realistic Improvised Explosive Device Defeat complex. With an eye toward that end, JMRC's Troop Construction Program brings company-size elements from National Guard and Army Reserve units to Hohenfels for three-week rotations during the units' regular summer annual training.

"A normal summer AT for these units would involve two-weeks of training somewhere near their home base," said 1st Lt. William K. Petty, a Louisiana Army National Guard

Soldier working with the JMTC Reserve Component Liaison Office. "The three weeks here means more training for the Soldiers and more completed work for the ranges and facilities at JMRC."

This year, rotations began in April and continued through August. About 1,600 Guard and Reserve engineers from several states have contributed to the buildings and roadways of the IED Defeat Training complex.

IED Defeat Training has become a prime focus in the Department of Defense. With the stand up of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization under retired Army Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs. The JIEDDO has expanded the military's efforts to defeat the number one killer of American Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The participation of the 16 reserve component engineer companies has been an absolute win-win situation for the JMRC and our Reserve Components," said Col. Thomas S. Vandal, commander, Operations Group, JMRC.

## **Saving money, saving lives**

Their efforts saved JMRC more than \$3.8 million, and not only resulted in a new MOUT site and improvements to the IED Defeat Training Area, but also a new Un-

manned Aerial Vehicle landing strip.

"About 70 percent of these Soldiers have been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan ... some of them to both theaters," said Hawaii native Lt. Col. Douglas K. Jackson, Reserve Component Liaison Officer for JMTC. "One of the things they bring to the table is their experience downrange, as well as knowledge of how structures there look and are built."

Many of the older MOUT site structures look more like typical western or central European houses or villages, said Petty. The buildings on the IED lanes are being constructed to look and 'feel' more like those downrange.

"We had a heck of a time at first, getting the engineers to build walls like you'd find them in Iraq or Afghanistan," said Petty. "These guys take a lot of pride in their work, you know, and they wanted to build dress-right-dress, all perfectly square and plumb."

The newest compounds sport walls that follow the contours of the ground, and other features such as hiding places for weapons caches



**A North Dakota Army National Guard Soldier lays building blocks on a wall. The construction project aimed to provide a realistic Southwest Asian village for training at the JMRC IED Defeat Training complex at Hohenfels, Germany.**





*Engineers from the North Dakota Army National Guard build a wall around a replicated Iraqi village, part of the JMRC IED Defeat Training complex at Hohenfels, Germany. Part of a program saving JMRC millions of dollars, the engineers also brought experience from recent deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan to the project.*

or other materials. When summer ended and the Guard rotations completed, they left behind new buildings, walled compounds, a couple of miles of four-lane highway, an airstrip and some very long, hard days.

"It's really been intense," said 1st Lt. Morand Flemmer, platoon leader for the 1st General Construction Platoon, Company A, 142nd Engineer battalion, North Dakota Army National Guard. "We dug in and started work a day ahead of schedule and have been pushing hard ever since. And we'll keep on pushing until we leave in early August."

The program is an opportunity for junior Soldiers to get more hands-on training.

"At home, when we go to drill, we do a lot of studying, lots of book-work," said Spc. Curtis J. Savey, a member of Flemmer's team. "We've done a lot of cross-training and gotten to do a lot of things we couldn't have done if we'd stayed home. I've helped lay out the worksite, mixed mortar and thrown block since I've been here."

Despite the long days and hard work, the troops got to experience a little bit of Germany, too.

"As a bonus, during their three week annual training, the soldiers were able to enjoy a little of Bavaria by taking three MWR trips during the weekends," said Vandal.

### One Army

In days gone by, some old Soldiers

might say, there was a sense of separation between the Reserve, National Guard and active components. No longer, says Command Sgt. Maj. David L. Pierce, command sergeant major for JMRC.

"I can state positively, based on the current operations here at JMRC, that there is absolutely no separation between these components," he said. "These reserve component Soldiers come to JMRC to do their AT and without any reservation, willingly accept the mission and accomplish it as good, or better than any active unit."

He added that the skills these soldiers bring to the JMRC transformation are equivalent to any engineer unit he'd worked with in 25 years of service.

"They are so good in fact that we produced a myriad of tasks (we thought) to keep 16 engineer companies continually working through out the summer," said Pierce. "They have not only accomplished more than we expected, but they are way ahead of schedule."

The National Guard Soldiers have had a helping hand in their efforts, courtesy of a couple of platoons of engineers from the Azerbaijani Army.

"The Oklahoma Guard has a partnership agreement with Azerbaijan," said Okmulgee, Okla., native Capt. Danny Snow, 120th Engineer Battalion, Oklahoma Army National Guard. "The Azerbaijani Army is really 'old school' ... built on the old Soviet Rus-

sian style military model."

### Emerging partners

Oklahoma's participation in the State Partnership Program with Azerbaijan kicked off in 2003.

"The initial pairing was predicated on Oklahoma's and Azerbaijan's desire to participate in the National Guard Bureau program and the pairing was a 'natural' because of common oil and agricultural interests," said Maj. Gen., Harry M. Wyatt, commander, Oklahoma National Guard. "The SPP program has enjoyed continued acceleration since its inception because of the dedicated efforts of the two participants and because of the continued recognition of its importance by NGB and U.S. European Command."

The program has received support of both past and present U. S. Ambassadors to Azerbaijan as the program has grown in size and scope from initial military to military activities to increasing civil to civil activities encouraged by the Oklahoma National Guard, Wyatt said.

The Azerbaijanis are training up for a mission as a coalition partner in the Global War on Terror, said Jackson. The training they do with American units here will enhance their – and the Americans' – ability to work jointly downrange.

"This engineering activity will act as a further catalyst as we develop the SPP program with Azerbaijan," said

**... see Engineers on Page 45**



# JMTC programs target improved ranges, excellence in stewardship

by Timothy R. Heefner

7th U.S. Army JMTC

TSAE Regional Visual Information Manager

**T**he 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command is pursuing the most comprehensive transformation of its structure and strategy since the early years of World War II.

In years to come, JMTC will increase capabilities for a wide range of missions whether the Army is at war, keeping the peace, deterring aggression or providing humanitarian assistance around the globe.

The use of ranges and training lands will increase and new training ranges and facilities will be required as each phase of this transformation takes place.

The core of this mission is the critical need to sustain the capability of range and training land assets to meet the demands of Army doctrinal training requirements. JMTC's Training Support Activity Europe in Grafenwoehr supports this mission by managing the USAREUR Sustainable Range Program. The program has two key components, Integrated Area Training Management and the Range and Training Land Program.

## ITAM

ITAM is a key component of the Army's commitment to training land sustainability and environmental stewardship. The ITAM Mission is to provide a uniform training land management capability.

The intent of the program is to manage lands in a sound manner to ensure no net loss of training capabilities. To accomplish this, ITAM includes components for:

- inventorying and monitoring land conditions,
- integrating training requirements with training land carrying capacity,
- educating land users to minimize adverse impacts,
- and rehabilitating and maintaining training land.

A geographic information system

capability provides standard mapping and spatial analysis capabilities that support ITAM program components.

ITAM provides a range of geospatial support for planning and execution of JMTC training. ITAM has developed standard information products to share geospatial data such as the ITAM Mapper (a web-based intranet site that allows access to select geospatial datasets) and the ITAM Viewer (DVD-based GIS viewing program).

Current access to the Mapper is restricted to military (.mil) domains. The ITAM Viewer program and GIS data are distributed on DVD for the user to load onto their PC.

GIS data is also distributed in the form of maps (paper and molded, raised relief maps) and as Flight Simulators. The Mapper is one of the most well-used training support web resources in the EUCOM area.

ITAM conducts instructional blocks in USAREUR Army Leadership Courses, to include the Warrior Leader Course, and the Company Commander/First Sergeant Course. ITAM also conducts regularly scheduled Mobile Training Team site visits to S3 shops and other training planners and managers throughout the theatre.

ITAM supports EUCOM's multinational mission by providing GIS based instructional blocks to foreign military visitors to USAREUR and to the NATO School located in Oberammergau.

JMTC G3 and Master Gunners are strong advocates of the web enabling Range Manager Tool Kit functionality, particularly in support of potential Joint Forward Operating Sites in Eastern Europe and Northern Africa.

Web enabled RMTK would provide much needed support for conducting 'what if' scenarios for potential range footprints and surface danger zones, particularly at JFOS locations with minimal existing range infrastructure.

"It's similar to how you treat your military vehicle," said Nate Whelan, the USAREUR SRP ITAM program manager. "ITAM is Preventive Main-

tenance for USAREUR's Training Areas. ITAM's proactive land rehabilitation and maintenance approach minimizes the possibility of erosion and other training land impacts from becoming major environmental compliance issues."

## RTLP

The new USAREUR force structure is transitioning from a traditionally "heavy" force to a "light" force consisting of an Airborne Infantry Brigade and the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment providing the main maneuver force and a new Combat Aviation Brigade to round out the force.

USAREUR must reconfigure its existing "heavy" range and training facilities to support these forces and their new training requirements. RTLP has been implementing several initiatives in support of USAREUR's transformation efforts.

RTLP is working closely with local installations as well as GTA Operations to expedite these changes. Major initiatives funded by RTLP have been renovations and upgrades to the ranges and training facilities at Bamberg and Schweinfurt to support the 173rd Airborne Brigade's 1/91 Cavalry Squadron.

These projects include Parachute Landing Fall pits and aircraft mock-ups of C-130 and C-17 aircraft. These new training facilities will be used to conduct necessary refresher training for airborne Soldiers prior to tactical jumps. RTLP is also working on renovations of MOUT sites and the Reese Range at Bamberg to support the 173rd Airborne's training requirements.

RTLP has improved ranges in Kaiserslautern and completely renovated the 300-meter range at the Brietenwald Range complex. The program is working closely with installation managers at Kaiserslautern to develop new training infrastructure at Rhein Ordnance Barracks.

"Since the bulk of the Soldiers stationed in Kaiserslautern are stationed in vicinity of ROB, travel time has been reduced and a first class



training facility created for Soldiers to conduct Home Station Training," said Steve Kennedy, SRP RTLP program manager. "Grafenwoehr Training Area is the primary live-fire training complex for USAREUR and must transform itself to support the new force structure at end state."

RTLP was tasked to design a concept for reconfiguring one of GTA's range facilities into a live fire improvised explosive device defeat lane. RTLP, working closely with other JMTC organizations, developed a plan which was approved by the Joint IED Defeat Task Force.

The new live fire IED Lane is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of 2006. The new facility will provide USAREUR with a three kilometer course loaded with urban clusters, a live-fire shoot-house, new urban targetry and an After Action Review facility along with new instrumentation. This new facility will be used to train USAREUR Soldiers in techniques and procedures on defeating IEDs in a live-fire environment and will become the basis for JMTC's new IED Academy. **T**

For more info about the Sustainable Range Program, browse: <https://srp.usareur.army.mil/>.

#### ▼ **Military Intel. - continued from page 15**

Program trains select Georgian military units to help the country continue its scheduled deployments to support UN peacekeepers in Iraq, according to EUCOM sources.

The program includes a wide variety of training, including light infantry tactics; brigade-level engineer, logistics, reconnaissance and signal skills; and command and control training at the brigade level and above. **T**

#### ▼ **Stability Ops - continued from page 17.**

"In the three months I have been here, I have developed a great respect for these Soldiers," Willis said. "These guys are very motivated and will listen to us and execute what we tell them to the best of their ability," he said. "They are also tough and move very fast and never complain."

According to their instructors, this training will be essential to the fledgling military members.

"This is important to the Georgian Army because after this, they will be deploying to Iraq," explained U.S.

#### ▼ **1-91 CAV - continued from page 35.**

have to change the squadron mindset."

Participants in the exercise were impressed by the quality of training they received at JMRC.

"I haven't been downrange but from what I have been told by my NCOs, this was the best training that some people have seen in their military careers," said 2nd Lt. Alex Newsom, 1-91 Cavalry 3rd Platoon, B Troop leader. "Putting together the advice of the combat seasoned veterans of my unit and the professional OCs can make me much more knowledgeable about what is going on and improve my leadership abilities in the field."

"Overall this is excellent training. I have never seen anything of this caliber. The level of complexity that was put into this is something you don't see on a daily basis in training. If more Soldiers can have this kind of training, I think we can really make a

#### ▼ **Engineers - continued from page 43.**

Wyatt. "We are currently exploring additional joint engineering/training projects with Azerbaijan's Minister of Defense for next fiscal year."

The Azerbaijani Soldiers spoke enthusiastically of the partnership as well.

"When we get to work together, to exchange ideas," said 1st Lt. Talat Tagiyev, an engineer company commander from Ganja, Azerbaijan, "it's good for us and for the American Army. We've built strong relationships, made good friends here and have learned a lot from each other."

Most of the Azerbaijani engineers are officers, and are, according to Snow, highly trained and highly motivated.

Army instructor Sgt. Matt Ritenour of the 1-4 Infantry Battalion. "There they will be doing this on a daily basis."

Ritenour, who was working with the troops on the outer cordon of the exercise, was quite pleased with the outcome of the maneuvers.

"From my vantage point at the outer cordon they did pretty well," he said. "There was a house back there they utilized and the enemy did not see them. From that location their snipers were able to pick off their

difference in the long run."

According to Reid, the JMRC personnel involved in the exercise were quite pleased with the unit's overall performance. Responses from Soldiers participating in the training were also favorable.

"If you ask any JMRC O/C who was in the field during this training event he will tell you that the 1-91 Cavalry could not have been more pleased with this great opportunity in which to train," Reid said. "Events such as this, where a unit is able to take full advantage of a combat training center, do not come often for units and the 1-91 Cavalry took maximum advantage of this particular opportunity."

The 1-91 Cavalry will return to Hohenfels in April 2007 for a mission readiness exercise prior to their operational deployment. **T**

"One of the things we've tried to do with our Azerbaijani partners," said Snow, "is to let them cross-train. The way they work is typically old-style Soviet -- one man, one task."

The approach to building and construction used by U.S. Army engineers is a little different from what the Azerbaijani troops were used to.

"With them, if a guy is a heavy machine operator, that's all he does. If he's a cement guy, that's all he does. We've let the Azerbaijanis drive heavy machinery, and they've worked shoulder-to-shoulder with the units on the ground here to build roads and buildings. It's been great training for both of us." **T**

targets."

According to Willis, in addition to their willingness to learn, the Georgian Soldiers are also able to overcome any obstacles they come up against in the field.

"This unit being newly formed," he said. "doesn't have all the equipment we would normally see ourselves, but they are very good at improvising. If there is a problem they will figure it out. They have shown a lot of ingenuity out in the field." **T**



# “What Right Looks Like...”

**by Command Sgt. Maj. John S. Gioia**  
**7th U.S. Army JMTC**

To understand how standards and discipline are linked, you have to begin with the basic premise of how we grow sergeants in our Army.

The Sergeant Major of the Army refers to this as a basic three step process. Step one: establish a standard.

Army Regulation 670-1, Wear of the Uniform, is a standard that tells us how to wear the uniform, items on the uniform, and all the accessories. It guides our uniform in the field. The items we wear on the uniform or carry with us is a standard usually in accordance with a unit standard operating procedure.

The preventive maintenance checks and services we perform on our HMMWV in the motor pool are done to a standard outlined in the operator's manual. A patrol of Soldiers coming off mission in Baghdad, Iraq clear their weapons upon entering their base camp IAW the standard published in the Weapons Handling Procedures developed by the Army's Combat Readiness Center.

Now with an understanding of standards, step two is put someone in charge of enforcing the standards. This is where the sergeant is now responsible for his or her piece of the Army, those three or four Soldiers.

It is the sergeant who conducts daily inspections of Soldier's uniforms. It is the sergeant who conducts Pre-Combat Checks of his or her Soldier's arms and equipment before going out on patrol. It is the sergeant who supervises the PMCS of the HMMWV during maintenance periods, and it is the sergeant who over-watches the Soldiers coming off patrol to ensure all have cleared their weapons to standard.

Step three in growing our leaders is to hold the sergeant accountable. This is where the more senior leaders above the sergeant have their responsibility. To see what is being done to standard, senior leaders have to inspect.

A Soldier on patrol missing a piece of equipment means it was missed during PCCs by the Sergeant and obviously missed by a more senior leader during the Pre-Combat Inspection. This same analogy extends to every standard we set for our units and our sergeants to enforce.

So for the more senior leaders above the rank of sergeant you must always remember your role in growing sergeants. Lead by example by demonstrating the standard in all that you do. This leading by example empowers the sergeant to enforce standards on their small piece of the Army.

We have always said when a more senior leader



**Command Sgt. Maj. John S. Gioia, 7th U.S. Army JMTC**

demonstrates a lesser standard; this demonstration now becomes the new standard.

The demonstration of a lesser standard goes far deeper than just setting a new standard; it circumvents the authority of the sergeant. I have learned over the years that the two basic building blocks for a sergeant to establish his or her authority and establish discipline in the organization begin with basic uniform and saluting standards.

In every case where the sergeant stops enforcing fundamental standards and senior leaders do not hold him accountable, the enforcement of standards in other areas begins to slip. Short cuts in performing PMCS begin to become routine, Soldiers stop wearing seat-belts, PCCs are not performed in detail, complacency begins to set in and sergeants stop making on the spot corrections.

The importance of the squad and platoon leadership in establishing standards and holding sergeants accountable is critical to the performance of the organization. When you walk into an organization as an outsider and you see everyone in the same uniform, vehicle load plans are organized, basic fundamental drills are performed as routine, and you learn a lot about the unit's discipline. You know as an outsider that standards are established, everyone knows the standard, and there is

a leader in charge.

Recent changes in regulations and policy regarding the wear of the uniform.

In an attempt to get the word out on some of these changes the Army publishes All Army Activities or ALARACT Messages regularly. In these messages approved changes to the regulations and approved guidance are communicated from Department of The Army to major commands. Some recent changes and common violations of existing regulations and/or guidance are listed below:

- The ACU digitized pattern fabric covers with or without SSI, Shoulder Sleeve Insignia-Former Wartime Service, and U.S. flag insignia (full color or subdued) are not authorized to be worn over the ACU hook and loop-faced pads already provided on the ACU shirt. In other words... it is unauthorized to cover up excess Velcro on your ACU sleeve.
- The black or foliage green ACU fleece can be worn as an outer garment with the ACU, Battle Dress Uniform, and Desert Battle Dress Uniform, unless otherwise directed by the commander.
- Pens/pencils worn in the pen/pencil slots on the ACU coat can be exposed.
- Wear of the black, ACU universal pattern, and foliage green gym bags, civilian rucksacks or other similar civilian bags while in uniform is authorized. In other words... No other color other than what has been mentioned is authorized.
- Non-Subdued SSI (S) are not authorized to be worn on utility uniforms as a SSI or SSI-FWTS. Leaders will ensure Soldiers comply immediately. There are no exceptions to policy currently approved authorizing wear of any non-subdued SSI on utility uniforms. In other words... the 1st Infantry Division (Big Red One) color patches are not authorized for wear on the ACU!
- Combat, Special Skill, and Identification Badges are not authorized to be worn on the ACU in the field or within deployed environments.
- The ACU patrol cap is worn with the ACU in field environments when the Kevlar helmet is not worn, on work details, or in other environments where the wear of the beret is impractical as determined by the commander. In other words... the patrol cap is not authorized to be worn in the PX, food courts, out running errands etc..
- The gray (foliage green) micro fleece cap replaced the black knit cap in the fiscal 2006 clothing bag. There hasn't been a wear-out-date established for the black knit cap. Both are authorized to be worn with the

Individual Physical Fitness Uniform.

- Earphones, headset, Ipod, and Walkmans etc...are not authorized for wear with the IPFU, the only exception is in a physical fitness facility - In other words... You can't wear them outside running.

An additional area that falls in the category of standards and discipline is proper flag etiquette. As far as standards of respect go for our nation's colors Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1 states the following:

- Reveille and Retreat: Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag. During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Foreign nationals should stand at attention. - In other words... when driving and Reveille and Retreat is played, all should stop their vehicles, get out and render proper courtesy.

As leaders, we must always do the right thing. When you find yourself wavering on enforcing the standard, remember the following quotation by James Warner Bellah: "A dead Soldier who has given his life because of the failure of his leader is a dreadful sight before God. Like all dead soldiers, he was tired before he died, and undoubtedly dirty, and possibly frightened to his soul; and there he is on top of all of that... never to see his homeland. Don't be the leader who failed to instruct him properly, who failed to lead him well. Burn the midnight oil that you may not, in later years, look at your hands and find his blood still red upon them."

The bottom line - "Be the standard, know the standard, and enforce the standard."

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